

BRAC IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY – August 23, 2011

- **Ken Hartman, Director of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, presided over the BRAC Implementation Committee meeting in John Carman's absence. He called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.**

- **Phil Alperson, the County's BRAC Coordinator, provided the following updates:**
 - Phil reminded the Committee that the next meeting will be back on the regular third Tuesday schedule – September 20, 2011.

 - **THE BRAC MOBILITY PROJECTS MATRIX IS POSTED ON THE BRAC WEB SITE.** It has been updated through June 14, 2011 and reflects the multi-modal approach the County, State and other stakeholders are taking to address the transportation impacts of BRAC in Bethesda – transit improvements, pedestrian and bicycle enhancements, intersection upgrades, transportation demand management, etc.
 - http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/transpo_project_matrix-051711.pdf

 - **THE “TIERS AND PHASES” OF BRAC PROJECTS** based on funding is also posted on the web site. The Tiers and Phases were developed by MDOT and MCDOT in November 2009 with input from the BIC.
 - **Matrix developed by MDOT-MCDOT, October 2009:**
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/bracprojects-tiers-100609.pdf>
 - **Summary of Tiers & Phases, updated February 4, 2011:**
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/tiersphases-summary-revised-020411.pdf>

 - **PRINTABLE TIMELINE: ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION-RELATED TRAFFIC DISRUPTIONS IN BETHESDA (AS OF 8-9-11):**
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/disruptiontimeline-041111.pdf>
 - **Summary of BRAC Transportation Projects and Commuting Options**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brctmpl.asp?url=/content/exec/brac/projects_glance.asp

- **8-1-11 MCDOT construction update on BRAC-related projects**
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/mcdot-projectsupdate-080111.pdf>
- **7-26-11 State Highway Administration update on the Intersections Improvement project, with the potential availability of OEA funding**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/mcdot-sha_intersectionsschedule-oea_fundingupdate-072611.pdf
- **MCDOT UPDATE:** Edgar Gonzalez noted that landscaping remains to be done on the Cedar Lane bridge project but otherwise the project is well ahead of schedule. The Jones Bridge Road bike path is complete, except for the forthcoming installation of additional street lights. The West Cedar Lane bike path may take longer than planned because PEPCO will need several more months to relocate utilities. Concerns were raised about the operation of the signals on Rockville Pike at Wilson Drive and at North Wood; Edgar said he would look into those issues.
- **DEFENSE ACCESS ROAD FUNDING UPDATE:**
 - Phil reported at the July BIC meeting that DIOD would provide an additional \$8 million in DAR funding for the Metro Crossing project, bringing the total DAR funding to \$28 million. Since that meeting, Phil received correspondence from DOD about the additional funding.
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/dar-dod_additional28millionrequest-061011.pdf
- **UPDATE ON \$300 MILLION OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT FUND FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS NEAR MILITARY MEDICAL FACILITIES:**
 - **Phil discussed recent developments regarding the OEA transportation fund.** On July 21, the DOD Office of Economic Adjustment published guidelines and project criteria to apply for funds from the \$300 million fund appropriated by Congress for transportation infrastructure projects in communities with BRAC-impacted military medical facilities. MCDOT and MDOT have been working together to address the guidelines and submit worthy project funding proposals. Phil emphasized that these are very competitive grants, that several military communities are considering submitting funding proposals, and that there is no assurance that the County or State will receive all the funding they will request. Edgar Gonzalez noted that the County likely will submit at least one proposal for the Metro Crossing project, that the State likely will submit at least four proposals for each intersection project, and that either the County or State

will submit a proposal to extend the Bethesda Trolley Trail to the NIH campus. Andy Scott noted that the intersections projects will include additional bus pull-offs on Rockville Pike and Old Georgetown Road. Phil said that the September 20 BIC meeting would include a discussion of OEA project proposals, which must be submitted by October 7.

- **7-21-11 Gazette.Net: Guidelines released for \$300 million for BRAC transportation projects -- County coordinator: We're in a good position to receive funds:**
<http://www.gazette.net/article/20110721/NEWS/707219810/1007/guidelines-released-for-300-million-for-brac-transportation-projects&template=gazette>
- **7-21-11 Federal Register: Announcement of Federal Funding Opportunity from the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA), U.S. Department of Defense (3 pp):**
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-07-21/pdf/2011-18400.pdf>
- **7-26-11 OEA Funding Schedule: Opportunities for Community Input:**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/bic-oea_transpofunding-timeline-072611.pdf
 - **8-12-11 San Antonio Business Journal: Road transformation project seeking assist from Uncle Sam:**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/oea_transpoinfrastructure-sanantonio-081211.pdf
 - **8-11-11 San Antonio Express-News: Design standards reviewed for Harry Wurzbach:**
http://www.mysanantonio.com/community/north_central/news/article/Design-standards-reviewed-for-Harry-Wurzbach-1791835.php
- **On August 9, OEA conducted a teleconference for anyone interested in the \$300 million Federal Funding Opportunity.** This was an opportunity to answer any questions and assuage any concerns about the Federal Register instructions. At previous BIC meetings, the committee had discussed whether it would be prudent for the County to adopt an aggressive strategy to pursue maximum OEA funding, and whether the county should apply for funding for a MD 355 BRT Corridor study. In the August 9 conference call, Phil inquired whether studies that were not directly related to designed or engineered “real property” construction projects could be eligible for funding. Phil told the BIC that the answer was “no,” that funding proposals must be for “real property” construction

projects. But Phil said the County would look at whether it would be appropriate to include such a study in one of the SHA intersections proposed projects along MD 355, but he cautioned that a BRT study would not be part of any proposal if it was determined that it could jeopardize a proposal's chances of being approved.

- **August 19 was a deadline to submit comments on the proposed criteria OEA will use to weigh project proposals.** Phil noted that these comments were restricted to the judging criteria -- not on criteria for actual projects, for which there will be a subsequent comment period. Phil and several BIC members expressed concern that the criteria as written might be interpreted in a way that might not give fair consideration to projects that address "outside the fence" impacts of BRAC.
 - **8-18-11 Montgomery County BRAC Coordinator comments to OEA on proposal criteria**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/oea_transpogrants-ffo_countycomments-081811.pdf
 - **8-5-11 Stone Ridge School input on OEA criteria**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/oea_transpogrants-stoneridgecomments-080511.pdf
 - **8-5-11 B-CC Chamber of Commerce input on criteria**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/oea_transpogrants-bcc_chambercomments-080511.pdf
 - **8-19-11 Stone Ridge School comments to OEA**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/oea_transpogrants-ffo_stoneridgecomments-081911.pdf
- **PRESENTATION: NEW CONSTRUCTION ON THE NAVY MED CAMPUS: Captain Malanoski of Naval Support Activity-Bethesda gave a presentation on upcoming construction projects at the Navy campus.**
 - Captain Malanoski prefaced the presentation by noting that most patient and personnel transfers from Walter Reed/DC to Bethesda will be done by August 29, with the remainder to follow shortly thereafter. He noted that AM congestion at the North Wood signal exceeds expectations and it will continue to be monitored and tweaked. He also introduced Captain Fritz Kass, who will be relieving Capt. Malanoski later this fall. He also noted that a tour of the new facilities will be arranged for the BIC in the future.

- On August 19, the Navy published in the Federal Register a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS and hold Public Scoping Meetings for new non-BRAC construction on the Navy Med campus. These projects will include the demolition of five interior medical center buildings, to be replaced with a single 5-story building and a new parking garage, and new facilities at the USU medical school which also include a new garage. These projects are the result of congressional mandates that the new Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda have “world class” facilities that provide “world class” care. Construction on the interior buildings will enable double occupancy patient rooms to be converted into single rooms, and enable other services to be upgraded. But he noted that this construction will not cause an increase in patients. This EIS will include a traffic study which will assess the impacts of additional vehicles coming to the new garages; the ratio of personnel to spaces will remain greater than 3:1.
- The Scoping Meetings will be at the Bethesda Pooks Hill Marriott on 5151 Pooks Hill Road on Wednesday, Sept 7, 2011, from 5:00-9:00 PM, and Monday, Sept. 12, 2011, from 1:00-5:00 PM
 - **8-23-11 NSAB Presentation (16 pp):**
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/nsab-eis-bic_presentation-082311.pdf
 - **8-19-11 Federal Register (Vol. 76, No. 161): Department of the Navy - Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Medical Facilities Development and University Expansion at Naval Support Activity Bethesda, Bethesda, Maryland and To Announce Public Scoping Meetings:**
<http://frwebgate3.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/PDFgate.cgi?WAISdocID=yjAVCe/0/2/0&WASAction=retrieve>
 - **8-17-11 Naval Support Activity-Bethesda notification of the EIS to County Executive Leggett**
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/exec/brac/pdf/nsab-eis-sept2011-081711.pdf>
 - **Details from Naval Support Activity-Bethesda on EIS process and Scoping Meetings** <http://www.bethesda.med.navy.mil/nsa/eis.aspx>
- **Ken Hartman solicited additional comments from the public.** Karen Kuker-Kihl noted that the county is seeking community service volunteers; those interested can call the County’s 311 information line. Debbie Michaels raised concerns about the morning operation of Rockville Pike signals; Edgar said he would follow up. Phil Neuberg

pointed out NIH's public relations campaign to encourage NIH personnel to find alternative to single occupancy vehicle commuting.

- **The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20, 2011, 7:30 p.m., at the BCC Regional Services Center.**

Committee members in attendance, August 23, 2011:

Phil Alperson, County BRAC Coordinator
Dawn Chaikin, Locust Hill Citizens Association
Dave Dabney, Bethesda Urban Partnership
Edgar Gonzalez, Montgomery County Department of Transportation
Ilaya Hopkins, East Bethesda Citizens Association
Janet Maalouf, Maplewood Citizens Association
Debbie Michaels, Glenbrook Village Homeowners Association
Sara Morningstar, Montgomery County Office of Intergovernmental Relations
Patrick O'Neill, Greater Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce
Andy Scott, Maryland Dept. of Transportation
Richard Vogel, Stone Ridge School
Phil Neuberg for Dan Wheeland, National Institutes of Health

Ex-officio:

Joan Kleinman (Representative Chris Van Hollen)
Susan Buffone (Council Member Roger Berliner)
Debbie Spielberg (Council Member Marc Elrich)
Capt. Michael Malanoski, Naval Support Activity-Bethesda
Capt. Fritz Kass, Naval Support Activity-Bethesda
Commander John Lamberton, Naval Support Activity-Bethesda
Jeff Miller, Naval Support Activity-Bethesda

Other Attendees

Nancy Abeles, Bethesda Crest
Gerald R. Cichy, Maryland Transit Administration
Sandy Dean, NNMC
Heather Dinopolsky, Linowes & Blocher
Ron Ewart, Navy
Richard Hoyer
Greg Humes, Chevy Chase Valley Citizens Association
Karen Kuker-Kihl, The Promenade
Jan Larson, Montgomery Works
Marilyn Mazuzan, Town of Oakmont
Avice Meehan, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Jeanette Musil, DOD Office of Economic Adjustment
Eileen O'Connor
Martha O'Connor

Rich Parsons
Marvin Poole, Stonebridge (?)
Josh R., Reston Ride
Tom Robertson, Bethesda Urban Partnership
William Sadlon, NAVFAC Washington
Ben Schneider, Navy
Barb Solberg, State Highway Administration
Robert Weesner, North Chevy Chase